

CASE: 1250

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

13 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER A DOCUMENT TITLED "LIST OF DECEASED U.S. AIRMEN, BURIED, NEED TO LOCATE REMAINS." THIS DOCUMENT WAS IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. LIST OF 84 CASES FOR WHICH U.S. ANALYSTS BELIEVE THE VIETNAMESE SHOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. EACH CASE ON THE VIETNAMESE DOCUMENT WAS FOLLOWED BY A BRIEF COMMENT ON THE STATUS OF THE CASE. ENTRY NUMBER 34 ON THE VIETNAMESE DOCUMENT CORRELATED WITH REFNO 1250. (REF 4)

15 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER A DOCUMENT TITLED "LIST OF DECEASED U.S. SOLDERS THAT WERE BURIED (GRAVE SITE UNDETERMINED)." EACH CASE ON THE LIST WAS FOLLOWED BY THE COMMENT "BURIAL SITE CANNOT BE LOCATED; CONCLUDED THAT GRAVE SITE WAS INDETERMINABLE." ENTRY NUMBERS 57 AND 58 ON THE VIETNAMESE DOCUMENT CORRELATED WITH REFNO 1250. MOST OF THE REFNOs LISTED ON THIS DOCUMENT APPEARED ON A U.S. LIST OF 84 CASES FOR WHICH U.S. ANALYSTS BELIEVE THE VIETNAMESE SHOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. (REF 4)

1 November 1993

ON 17 DEC 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED, "REGISTER OF U.S. GRAVES IN QUANG BINH PROVINCE." LINE ENTRY #32 CORRELATES TO REFNO 1250-0-01 BASED ON PILOT'S NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, SERIAL NUMBER, INCIDENT DATE AND AIRCRAFT TYPE. (REF 5)

ON 17 DEC 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED, "REGISTER OF U.S. GRAVES IN QUANG BINH PROVINCE." LINE ENTRY #33 CORRELATES TO REFNO 1250-0-02 BASED ON PILOT'S NAME, RANK, SERIAL NUMBER, INCIDENT DATE AND AIRCRAFT TYPE. (REF 5)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 16 AUGUST 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1251-0-01 (ACCNO 6308)
Name: BLEVINS, LURAL LEE III

Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Date Status assigned: 3 Nov 1975

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-------------------|------------|-----------|
| Nationality | AMERICAN | Race | NEGROID | Blood Chit | \$ |
| Service | ARMY | Sex | MALE | Blood type | # # |
| Grade | E4 | Hair | BLACK | Complexion | # |
| SSAN | | Eyes | BROWN | Weapon | # |
| Serial No | DATA | Height | 68 in / 1.73 mtrs | Weapon No | # |
| Birth date | | Weight | 138 lb / 62.5 kg | Duty pos | FWD OBSVR |
| Home State | PENNSYLVANIA | Religion | PROTESTANT | PW Camp | \$ |

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: GROUND SITE
UTM: 48QYD344024
Lat/Long: 161733N / 1071138E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: THUA THIEN-HUE
(formerly): THUA THIEN
Mission District: A LUOI
Mission Date: 16 Aug 1968
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Jun 93
Surveys: Jun 93
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

| | | | |
|---------------|------|--------------|----|
| Vehicle Type: | GRND | Serial: | \$ |
| Crash Type: | None | Engine Type: | \$ |
| Call Sign: | \$ | 1 Serial: | \$ |
| Year: | \$ | 2 Serial: | \$ |

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 16 AUGUST 1993

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REFNO: 1251-0-02 (ACCNO 6354) Status: (N) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: GRANIELA, JOSE ANTONIO JR. Date Status assigned: 9 Oct 1968

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|-------------------|------------|----------|
| Nationality | AMERICAN | Race | CAUCASIAN | Blood Chit | \$ |
| Service | ARMY | Sex | MALE | Blood type | # # |
| Grade | E3 | Hair | BLACK | Complexion | # |
| SSAN | | Eyes | BROWN | Weapon | # |
| Serial No | DATA | Height | 69 in / 1.75 mtrs | Weapon No | # |
| Birth date | | Weight | 152 lb / 68.9 kg | Duty pos | RIFLEMAN |
| Home State | NEW YORK | Religion | CATHOLIC | PW Camp | \$ |

SITE INFORMATION

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: GROUND SITE
UTM: 48QYD344024
Lat/Long: 161733N / 1071138E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: THUA THIEN-HUE
(formerly): THUA THIEN
Mission District: A LUOI
Mission Date: 16 Aug 1968
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Folders Passed: Mar 92
Investigations: Jun 93
Surveys: Jun 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: GROUND SITE

VEHICLE DATA

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Vehicle Type: GRND | Serial: \$ |
| Crash Type: None | Engine Type: \$ |
| Call Sign: \$ | 1 Serial: \$ |
| Year: \$ | 2 Serial: \$ |

SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
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CASE: 1251

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

9 June 1975

AT ABOUT 1100 HOURS ON 16 AUGUST 1968 SP4 LURAL L. BLEVINS III, ARTILLERY FORWARD OBSERVER, AND PFC JOSE A. GRANIELA, RIFLEMAN, WERE ON A COMBAT OPERATION WHEN THEIR PLATOON BEGAN RECEIVING INTENSE AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES YD 344 024, THUA THIEN, SOUTH VIETNAM. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PLATOON IMMEDIATELY TOOK COVER, BUT PFC GRANIELA WAS HIT IN THE LEGS BY SEVERAL ROUNDS OF SMALL ARMS FIRE. AFTER CALLING FOR HELP, HE WENT INTO SHOCK. A TOURNIQUET WAS PLACED AROUND HIS LEGS AND MOUTH-TO-MOUTH RESUSCITATION WAS ADMINISTERED, BUT TO NO AVAIL. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PLATOON BELIEVE THAT PFC GRANIELA DIED AT THAT TIME.

DURING THIS TIME SP4 BLEVINS WAS CALLING IN ARTILLERY STRIKES. WHILE ATTEMPTING TO ADJUST THE INCOMING ROUNDS, HE WAS HIT BY FRAGMENTS IN HIS LEG, AND THEN BY TWO ROUNDS OF SMALL ARMS FIRE IN THE HEAD. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PLATOON CHECKED HIS BODY, BUT COULD FIND NO SIGNS OF LIFE. BECAUSE OF THE INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE THE TWO MEN COULD NOT BE RECOVERED AT THAT TIME WITHOUT THE PLATOON SUSTAINING MORE CASUALTIES, AND A RETURN TO THE AREA WAS IMPOSSIBLE. THE FOLLOWING DAY THIS AREA WAS BOMBARDED BY AIR STRIKES AND ARTILLERY. (REF 1)

REMAINS RECOVERED IN 1969 AND IDENTIFIED BY CILTHAI AS THOSE OF SP4 BLEVINS. ON 1 APR 76 A LETTER FROM THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, THAILAND, STATED THAT THE PROPOSED IDENTIFICATION OF SP4 BLEVINS WAS ACCEPTED BY THE ASGRO BOARD OF REVIEW ON 3 NOV 1975 (REF 2). DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THESE INDIVIDUALS' NAMES AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFO. AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. SP4 BLEVINS IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF REMAINS RECOVERED.

PFC GRANIELA IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== REFERENCES ===

9 June 1975

REFERENCES: <1> HQ 1ST BAT, 327 INF INVESTIGATION BOARD W/ATTACHMENTS,
7 SEP 68. <2> LTR, THCIL-L, 1 APR 76. <3> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
240354Z JUL 93.

CASE: 1251

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

2 April 1992

CASE NARRATIVE PASSED TO THE VIETNAMESE DURING THE 30 MARCH 1992
TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

9 June 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: LURAL L. BLEVINS III, 1251-0-01, AND JOSE A.
GRANIELA 1251-0-02.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

13 August 1993

ON 30 JUN 93, IE4 CONDUCTED AN INVESTIGATION OF CASE 1251 IN A LUOI
DISTRICT, THUA THIEN-HUE PROVINCE. IE4 INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES WHO
PROVIDED FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS OF A BATTLE IN WHICH THEY PARTICIPATED ON AN
UNRECALLED DATE IN THE MIDDLE OF 1968. THEIR ACCOUNTS POSSIBLY CORRELATE
TO THE BATTLE IN WHICH CASE 1251 WAS INVOLVED BY GENERAL LOCATION AND TIME
FRAME, HOWEVER NEITHER WITNESS HAD ANY KNOWLEDGE OF U.S. SOLDIERS' BODIES
BEING LEFT BEHIND FOLLOWING THE BATTLE. ON 4 JUL 93, IE4 CONDUCTED AN
AERIAL SURVEY OF THE BATTLE SITE WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. DUE TO THE
HAZARDOUS AND UNSAFE TERRAIN (ROCKY MOUNTAIN PEAK), IE4 WAS UNABLE TO SEND
A GROUND SEARCH TEAM TO THE SITE. (REF 3)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 26 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1253-1-01 (ACCNO 1041) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Name: POWELL, WILLIAM ELMO Date Status assigned: 15 Jan 1986

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|
| Nationality | AMERICAN | Race | CAUCASIAN | Blood Chit | |
| Service | AIR FORCE | Sex | MALE | Blood type | O + |
| Grade | O2 | Hair | BROWN | Complexion | FAIR |
| SSAN | | Eyes | BLUE | Weapon | .38 CAL PISTOL |
| Serial No | 003176742 | Height | 72 in / 1.83 mtrs | Weapon No | K574364 |
| Birth date | 10 Dec 1942 | Weight | 174 lb / 78.8 kg | Duty pos | PILOT |
| Home State | TEXAS | Religion | PROTESTANT | PW Camp | \$ |

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

| | INCIDENT LOCATION (0) | LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Site Type: | CRASH SITE | RESOLVED SITE |
| UTM: | 48QXE361443 | 48QXE345455 |
| Lat/Long: | 173457N / 1061658E | 173536N / 1061604E |
| Country: | NORTH VIETNAM | |
| Military Region: | 4 | |
| Mission Province: | QUANG BINH | |
| (formerly): | | |
| Mission District: | BO TRACH | |
| Mission Date: | 17 Aug 1968 | |
| Mission Category: | 3 | \$ |
| Local Analysis: | None. | |

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: Jun 86
Investigations: Apr 93, Jun 93
Surveys: Jun 93
Vessey Case: NO
Survivability: (4) Probably in the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| Vehicle Type: | F4D | Serial: | 7565 |
| Crash Type: | Enemy action | Engine Type: | J7915 |
| Call Sign: | VEGAS 02 | 1 Serial: | 418895 |
| Year: | 66 | 2 Serial: | 418405 |

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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